INTRODUCTION

The State and Local Air Monitoring Network Plan provides the results of the annual review of the air monitoring stations in California. These stations house monitoring instruments that measure ambient levels of gaseous and particulate (solid and liquid aerosol) air pollutants. Some of the stations also collect meteorological data. The plan contains updated monitoring information about the types of ambient air quality information that the Planning and Technical Support Division of the California Air Resources Board can provide upon request (aqdweb@arb.ca.gov).

The plan serves as a directory of routine ambient air quality monitoring that has occurred in California since 1995. The information includes the data availability for air quality and meteorological data, the location of the monitoring stations, and the type of ambient air quality monitoring performed at each monitoring station. This report is also available for downloading from http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/netrpt/netrpt.htm.

The monitoring stations in the state are operated by the Air Resources Board (ARB), by local Air Pollution Control Districts (APCD) or Air Quality Management Districts (AQMD), by private contractors, and by the National Park Service (NPS). These entities operate more than 250 air monitoring stations in California. The ARB operates air monitoring stations throughout the State. Most of the local districts operate air monitoring stations within their jurisdictions. In some portions of the State, private contractors operate monitoring stations under contract with businesses that are required by permit conditions to conduct monitoring. The National Park Service also operates a number of air monitoring stations in the National Parks and National Monuments throughout California. There are a few monitoring stations located in Tijuana, Mexicali, and Rosarito Playas, Mexico, operated by the government of the State of Baja, Mexico. The locations of the stations throughout the network are presented in Table 2 and on maps that are included in this report as Figures 1 through 17, starting on page 5-1.

The geographical jurisdictions of different local districts range from a portion of a county to several counties. While some local districts have authority to do air monitoring in the single county within their jurisdiction (e.g., San Diego APCD), other districts have authority over more than one county (e.g., Feather River AQMD), and still other districts have authority over an entire air basin (e.g., Bay Area AQMD). Note that a number of counties lie in more than one air basin (e.g., Kern County). Also, some districts have authority to monitor only in the portion of the county within the air basin it resides in (e.g., Northern Sonoma County APCD).

In late 1984, the ARB established statewide ambient air toxic monitoring to facilitate the identification and control of toxic air contaminants in California,

pursuant to 1983 amendments to the Health and Safety Code (AB 1807, Tanner). The ARB and one local agency, the Bay Area AQMD, are conducting toxics monitoring at 35 long-term air monitoring stations in the state and two air monitoring stations in Mexico. The ARB's sampling network consists of 17 stations located throughout California and the two in Mexico. Some of the stations in the ARB toxics sampling network contain ARB monitoring equipment operated by local district staff. The ARB's California network consists of stations located in the San Francisco Bay Area, South Coast, San Diego, South Central Coast, Sacramento Valley, Salton Sea, and San Joaquin Valley Air Basins. In addition, the 21 special purpose toxics monitoring stations operated by the Bay Area are included in this year's report. Three of those stations also include some toxics data streams for which the ARB is responsible.

The State and Local Air Monitoring Network Plan contains two tables, a map section, two appendices, and a glossary. Table 1 lists the range of years of ambient air quality and meteorology data that are available for monitors that have been active at any time between 1995 and 2008.

Table 2 includes several types of information about each monitoring site, including several attributes of each criteria pollutant monitor, the meteorological data availability, site location information, and the operating agency. (A criteria pollutant is a pollutant which has a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) to protect public health and welfare.) The monitor information listed for the criteria pollutants includes the network designation, sampling or analysis method, spatial scale, and monitoring objective. Only monitoring methods that are considered to be reference or equivalent methods by both the U.S. EPA and the ARB are included in Table 2. The sites included in Table 2 are those that have been in operation at some time since 1995.

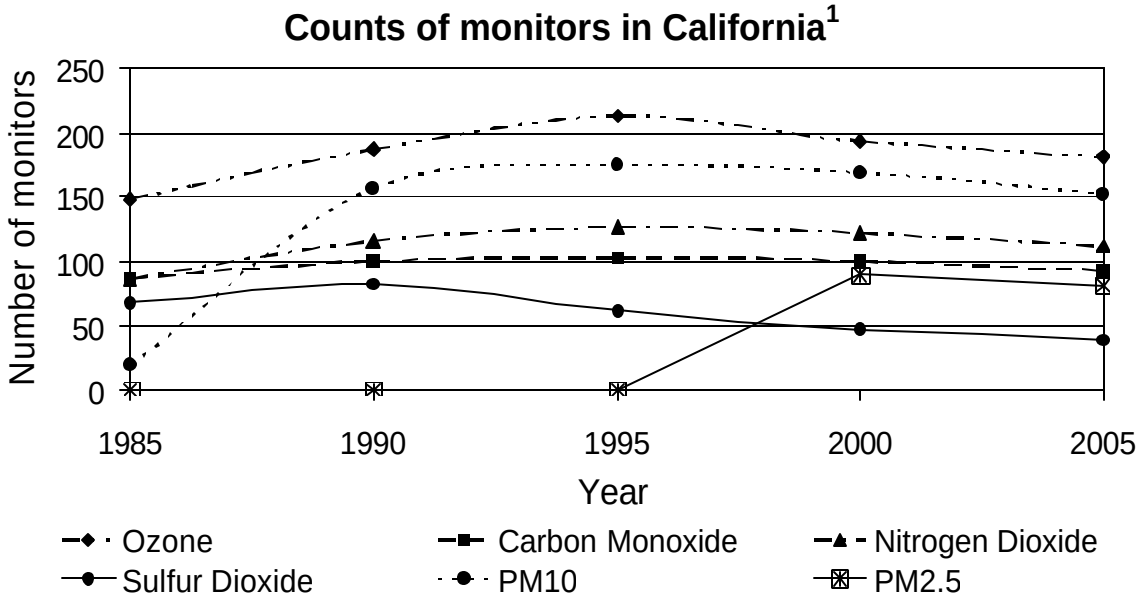
Table 2 also indicates air monitoring stations that collect meteorological data, and the types of data collected. In addition, Table 2 lists the geographical locations of the monitoring sites. The locations are specified by latitudes and longitudes, as well as by elevations in meters. The elevation data have not been reviewed and are preliminary. For some sites, not all of the location information is available.

Appendix A contains lists of PM2.5, nonmethane organic, and toxic compounds for which data are available. Appendix B lists the monitoring sites that began monitoring and reporting data by April 2008 and since we gathered information in April 2007 for the previous report. Air monitoring terminology used throughout the two tables is described in the glossary under the categories of Pollutant, Meteorological Parameter, Monitor Designation, Sampling or Analysis Method, Spatial Scale, and Monitoring Objectives.

The two tables in this report are organized alphabetically by air basin. Within each air basin, the counties are arranged in alphabetical order, and within

each county the monitoring sites are also arranged in alphabetical order. The map section is also arranged alphabetically by air basin. For quick referencing between Tables 1 and 2, information for the same site can be located on respective pages within Table 1 and Table 2. For example, a site listed in Table 1 on page 3-17 will be listed in Table 2 on page 4-17.

The graph below shows the change in the number of sites monitoring each of the federal criteria pollutants over the last 20 years.



1. For the six pollutants with federal ambient air quality standards.

Access to more information about the network

While this report includes a great deal of information about the ambient air quality monitoring network, much more information is readily available, including summaries of the pollutant data from the monitors around the State. Much of this information is available on the web.

To view summaries of the official air quality data from sites around the State, go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/welcome.html. For summaries of the data monitored today, yesterday, last week, and the last few months, go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/aqinfo.htm. A more general web page that lists links to other aspects of the ambient air quality data program is at http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/aqdpage.htm.

A broad overview of information about ambient air quality data in general that is in a question and answer format can be found at the following web page: http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqd/aqfaq/. This web page includes dozens of links to additional technical and non-technical information.

Information about the monitoring sites that routinely monitor and submit air quality data in California, along with detailed local maps showing the location of the sites, can be found at http://www.arb.ca.gov/aaqm/mldaqsb/amn.htm. A more general web page that provides links to other aspects of ambient monitoring is located at http://www.arb.ca.gov/aaqm/aaqm.htm.